



GIANT STEPS

ANNUAL
GALA BALL



A NIGHT IN
Positano



13 JUNE 2026

PROGRAM

Message From Our Chairman



In times of uncertainty, some things always remain constant, a parent's love for their child, helping a friend in need, and being there to support someone who feels alone.

For every parent, the first thought each day is the safety of their children, no matter how old they are. For families with a profoundly autistic child, those thoughts are amplified. At times, they can be overwhelming, even deafening, as we worry about children who may not be able to speak, who are developmentally delayed, and who struggle with emotional regulation. It can be an incredibly lonely and silencing place.

Giant Steps breaks through that silence and isolation. It replaces it with understanding, education, and connection. Through a truly transdisciplinary approach, including speech, music and occupational therapy, psychologists and doctors, teachers and support workers, we design individualised programs that give our children and their families the opportunity to find their place in the world. The joy of sharing strategies to navigate challenges, and celebrating the 'small steps' that are, in fact, giant steps for our children and their families, is at the heart of everything we do.

The need for our services is immense. Often, families come to us after all other educational options have failed, unsure of where to turn next. Giant Steps becomes that place of hope, a light that never goes out. We find ways to support not just in the moment, but across days, years, and decades.

Thanks to the generosity of many, our programs continue to grow. Today, Giant Steps offers early learning, primary and secondary education, post-school programs, respite services, mental health clinics, and a training hub. We are, truly, a hand to hold as our students and their families navigate life's journey.

Together, we have created a community that supports, uplifts, and believes there is always a way forward. A place where people feel safe and understood, where worries turn into smiles and where stories that once brought sadness are replaced with stories that bring joy. Giant Steps would not exist without you. Your generosity enables our highly skilled and compassionate team to deliver innovative programs and life-changing support. We do not charge school fees, ensuring that children and young adults from all backgrounds and circumstances can access our services.

Thank you for joining us at our most important fundraising event of the year. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for your compassion and thank you for helping transform loneliness into connection and hope into reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Irvin".

Barry Irvin AM
Chairman, Giant Steps Australia

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WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS, WHOSE SUPPORT MAKES THE GIANT STEPS GALA BALL POSSIBLE.

Dedicated to patient health. Committed to quality care.

At Douglass Hanly Moir Pathology, people come first. We're built around our community, supporting patients and the doctors who care for them. With collection centres across NSW and northern Victoria, and laboratories operating around the clock, we make quality care dependable and easy to access.

Behind the scenes, dedicated medical, scientific and operational teams work together to deliver efficient turnaround times without ever compromising on quality.

Because behind every test and every result is a person – and their health and their journey matter to us.

Proudly supporting
Giant Steps and their mission
to improve the lives of people
on the autism spectrum and
their families.



For more information, visit dhm.com.au

**DRAW
TAKES PLACE
at 10:55pm**



**A RENAULT KOLEOS TECHNO 4x2
VALUED AT \$39,990 DRIVE AWAY**



ONLY 1,200 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT \$100 EACH

2nd PRIZE

**\$500 MYER
VOUCHER
&
\$500 JB HI-FI
VOUCHER**

*Kindly donated by
the Maccallum and
Zhu Families*



3rd PRIZE

**\$200 JB HI-FI
VOUCHER
&
GRAND VINTAGE
2000 MAGNUM 1.5L
&**

LINDT HAMPER
*Kindly donated by
Giant Steps Families*

CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In Business & Beyond



At Quay Business Services, we're proud to celebrate two decades of helping businesses thrive and lives transform. This milestone is more than a number – it reflects our commitment to people, purpose, and progress.

Supporting **Giant Steps** has been close to our hearts for many years.

As a major sponsor of the annual Ball, we're deeply connected to its mission – especially through our director, Slavko Visevic, whose son Lucas has flourished at the school for over a decade and is now thriving in his fourth year with Adult Services.

With a dynamic team of professionals from diverse industries, Quay offers a full suite of services – from virtual CFO support to complete finance department outsourcing. We're not your standard accounting firm. Everything we do is personalised, practical, and focused on helping you reach your goals.

Whether you need support with **accounting, property investment, superannuation or finance**, we'll partner with you to unlock your financial potential and set a clear path to personal success and freedom.

Our **Passion for Property** offering has helped clients build lasting wealth by securing exclusive, off-market property opportunities across NSW, QLD and VIC. We're by your side from the first conversation to the final settlement.

At our core, we're accountants with a mission: to maximise your financial position and empower your future.

If you'd like to explore how we can support you, we'd love to connect. Reach out to our founder and director, **Slavko Visevic**, on [0422 888 592](tel:0422888592) or find us online at www.quaybusiness.com.au



Ball Program

6.45 pm	Pre-dinner drinks in foyer
7.00 pm	Doors open and guests seated
7.35pm	Entrée service commences
7.50 pm	Welcome to “A Night in Positano”
8.00 pm	Rob Rossano, MC Barry Irvin AM, Giant Steps Chairman Giant Steps Film accompanied by Arlo Sim and Ben Hauptmann Pledge appeal
8:35pm	Main course service commences
9.05pm	Tina Papoythis, Giant Steps parent Pledge appeal
9.20 pm	Live auction, Jason Kazanis Auctioneer
9.35 pm	Dessert, coffee and tea service commences
9.55 pm	Dancing with The Glassbreakers
11.00 pm	Silent auction closes Raffle winners announced Dancing with The Glassbreakers
11.45 pm	Bar closes
12.00 am	Band finishes

Good Night and Thank You!

Proud sponsor of Giant Steps



Calm, considered IT for busy healthcare teams.



A year ago, we met Giant Steps.

Our daughter Mia joined last July, and the difference it has made in her and for our family has been immeasurable.

What we found was a community that understood her from her very first day. A team of people who saw her and made her feel that she belonged.

Giant Steps does this every day, for the children and families who need it most. Thoughtfully, patiently and with extraordinary skill.

Seeing this firsthand has inspired us to support their mission, so more families will have the chance to experience this too.

Joel & Rebecca Tulloch

Proud Parents, Owners - Stoic IT.

Menu

ENTRÉE

Vannella burrata ricca with heirloom tomatoes, chargrilled red pepper pesto, ALTO kalamata olive tapenade, spiced kutjera and baby herbs GF V

*Dietary Entrée

Green pea and coconut parfait umami cream, scorched green peas, roasted garlic pangrattato, vadouvan, baby zucchini, yuzu vinaigrette GF VE

MAIN

Chargrilled Riverina beef eye fillet, smoked potato puree, roasted seasonal vegetables, poached baby onions, wilted greens, and red wine jus GF

*Dietary Main

Native spiced aubergine eye fillet, potato and leek pave, Warrigal greens, heirloom carrots, crispy tempura zucchini blossom and mushroom ragu GF VE

Pescatarian main alternative available only if pre-ordered 14 days prior

DESSERT

Mini desserts consisting of ...

- Tiramisu mascarpone mousse, Seven Mills roasted coffee almond praline, coffee cremeux, chocolate tuile (*contains nuts*)
- Pepe Saya sour cream and lemon cheesecake, torched meringue calamansi gel
- Vannella ricotta and pistachio cannoli (*contains nuts*)

*Dietary Dessert GF VE

Mini desserts consisting of ...

- Chocolate and ALTO olive oil cake, bitter chocolate mousse, raspberry gel, coconut sorbet
- Strawberry cremeux tart, strawberry foam and lemon balm
- Mango passionfruit curd, coconut sponge, mango gel

BEVERAGES

SPARKLING – Tyrrell's Moore's Creek Sparkling, Multi-Regional, NSW

WHITE WINE – Chain of Fire Pinot Grigio, Central Ranges, NSW

RED WINE – Secret Garden Shiraz, Murray Darling, NSW

BEER – 4 Pines Pacific Ale, Asahi Super Dry

ALCOHOL FREE

SPARKLING – McGuigan Zero Sparkling South Eastern Australia

BEER – Sobah Craft Zero, Peroni Nastro Azzurro Zero

REFRESHMENTS – A selection of juice, mineral water, soft drinks and infused botanical water

TEA & COFFEE

Served with dessert or available on request throughout the evening

GLUTEN FREE = GF VEGAN = VE VEGETARIAN = V

SOORI BALI



BALI AS IT SHOULD BE

www.sooribali.com



Silent Auction

Tonight we are using Galabid electronic bidding system. Just use your own smart phone or tablet to bid!

The Silent Auction will close at 11.00 pm

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BID IN THE PREMIUM AND SILENT AUCTIONS!



Or visit:

www.galabid.com/gsbali/

Happy Bidding

WHAT IF YOU WIN?

If you are the successful highest bidder at the end of the auction, around 11.00 pm, you will receive a link from Galabid.

CLICK ON THE GALABID LINK TO MAKE YOUR PAYMENT BEFORE HEADING TO THE AUCTION AREA TO COLLECT YOUR PRIZE.

Show an attendant in the Auction area your digital receipt to collect the item.

Lucky Dip

Purchase a Lucky Dip token and you will get a fantastic Lucky Dip prize. The tokens will be on sale from the start of the evening until 10.45 pm or until they are sold out. Tokens can be purchased from the Lucky Dip counter in the foyer, where you must go to collect your prize, and from Lucky Dip volunteers who will be circulating.

PLEASE NOTE Prizes are not interchangeable.

All wine received as a prize is not to be opened or consumed on the premises due to regulations.



COME EQUIPPED WITH A TOOL HAUL VALUED OVER \$12K

There will be two (2) lots of this prize on offer during the Live Auction, each valued at \$12,500. Both lots can be purchased by the same winner.

Imagine owning the ultimate tool shed, garage, workshop or garden shed full of all the RYOBI tools and products you've ever dreamed of?

Think of the fun you could have constructing all your DIY projects or creating a garden shed your neighbours will envy. And enjoy the benefits of battery-powered creature comforts the next time you get away on a camping adventure?

This is your opportunity to build your own comprehensive package of RYOBI products up to the value of \$12,500 RRP.

Come equipped with RYOBI and follow your passions at home, in the garden, camping and crafting.

Kindly donated by



Live Auction

One of the highlights of our Annual Gala Ball is our Live Auction, and this year we have an exceptional collection of experiences and items on offer.

In fact, the selection is so impressive that we've given our Live Auction items their very own booklet, alongside our Premium Silent Auction items.

You'll find everything detailed in the gold-covered auction booklet on your table. You can also view all items online, with the Live Auction items listed ahead of our Silent Auction catalogue.

We encourage you to browse the collection and start planning your bids. Good luck!



www.galabid.com/gsbll/



PLEASE REFER TO THE GOLDEN BOOKLET FOR OUR LIVE AUCTION AND PREMIUM SILENT AUCTION ITEMS.

Pledges

GOAL – TO RAISE \$150,000 FOR OUR NEW GLADESVILLE BUILDINGS

To ensure we can support more children, young people and adults, Giant Steps has secured additional buildings at Gladesville, creating much needed space for the future.

The buildings will accommodate new classrooms, more space for our adult programs, a dedicated transition program supporting students moving from school to post-school pathways, and expanded administration facilities. Before these spaces can be used, the buildings must be refurbished and adapted to meet the diverse needs of our students and participants.

Our goal is to raise \$150,000 to help transform the buildings into a safe, accessible and purpose-designed environment whilst also supporting the ongoing occupancy costs that will enable Giant Steps to help even more families.

Thank you for making a difference. We greatly appreciate your support.



Gladesville site aerial view with new buildings outlined



PLEASE SCAN QR CODE
TO DONATE

- SUPPORT EXPANSION,
INCLUDING ADULT AUTISM SERVICES
- NEW CLASSROOMS
- POST-SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAM
- ADMINISTRATION FACILITIES

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NEW




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Register for our Next Event

TOWER ONE STAIR CHALLENGE

FOR GIANT STEPS SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH AUTISM



SUNDAY 2 AUGUST




REGISTER HERE
toweronestairchallenge.net.au/

Other Upcoming Events



BOLLYWOOD NIGHT



Greek Night
for Giant Steps

Friday 30 October 2026
The Grand Roxy, Brighton Le Sands



MC – ROB ROSSANO

I am an experienced and well-rounded Senior Consultant with 15 years of experience in facilitation, training, coaching and managing organisational change.

I also have a daughter at Giant Steps. Since starting at Giant Steps we have seen a big change in Roxie. She comes home happier than ever, is making a lot more sounds and has improved her attention span and focus. She is even slightly more tolerable of her little brother!

At Phuel, we create and deliver world-class learning experiences that ignite passion, inspire change, and address major challenges. We believe in the power of people to drive growth and transformation.

PASSIONATE. ENGAGING. ENCOURAGING.

www.phuel.com.au/people/rob-rossano/



VOCALIST – ARLO SIM

Arlo Sim is a Sydney-based singer-songwriter whose music moves seamlessly between folk, indie and jazz.

Arlo's passion for music began at the age of 11 when he made his debut on the Opera House stage, and from then on, he was hooked. Mentored by Keith Urban, in 2021, Arlo came 2nd in The Voice Australia. This has given him a platform to share his vocal ability and songwriting. His debut single, "Falling Under", released that same year, was written in a time of uncertainty and

explores personal and existential anxiety.

Currently working on several projects, including the group "Hush" and his own writing, Arlo is collaborating with numerous producers to refine his music. He is performing at festivals in 2026 and is passionate about mentoring young, aspiring musicians, working with the Department of Education each year, and running workshops throughout inner-city and regional NSW.

"I always feel Arlo's humanity. He has a beautiful heart and is the real deal. It's very rare to have that kind of a gift, in that kind of a soul" - Keith Urban

BAND – GLASSBREAKERS



Glassbreakers, the party band brainchild of award winning, platinum selling singer songwriter and producer, Ilan Kidron. Best known as the lead singer of Australia's groundbreaking dance act The Potbelleez, known for their slew of hit singles including Are You With Me and Don't Hold Back.

Ilan is joined by Sydney's finest musicians, who over the years, have shared the stage with the likes of Grace Jones, Matt Corby, Tim Minchin, Hugh Jackman, Missy Higgins, Charlie XCX, Branford Marsalis, James Morrison and Vince Jones.

Harnessing all this experience, Glassbreakers has become a tight, energetic powerhouse of party brilliance performing breathtaking new takes on old world classics and wicked twists on the new.



GUITARIST – BEN HAUPTMANN

Ben Hauptmann is a highly regarded Australian Jazz guitarist celebrated for his technical brilliance and unique improvisational style. He was awarded the prestigious Freedman Jazz Fellowship in 2010, solidifying his place in the Australian Jazz scene. Hauptmann has worked as a session and touring guitarist for a diverse range of artists including Gurrumul Yunupingu, Vika & Linda, Justine Clarke, Donny Benet, Bandaluzia Flamenco, Katie Noonan, Bertie Blackman, Jack Ladder, Lior, Bluejuice, Micheline

Van Hautem, James Morrison and Tal Wilkenfeld. Ben has contributed to over fifty recordings including the 2015 ARIA winning 'The Gospel Album' by Gurrumul Yunupingu and 2009 ARIA winning 'Secrets and Lies' by Bertie Blackman, he has released four albums under his own name and co-produced multiple others.

Silent Auction and Lucky Dip Donors

Auction and Lucky Dip prizes have all been donated.

We would like to thank the individuals and companies for their generous donations.

For a full list of our prize donors please visit www.giantstepsball.net.au/our-sponsors/



Thank You

Thank you to our guests and everyone who has helped make tonight possible. Your support of our children means a great deal. Giant Steps warmly thanks the following people and businesses for their generosity tonight:

Giant Steps Ambassador, James Mayo

We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to James Mayo for truly going above and beyond in support of Giant Steps. His generosity, passion, energy and unwavering commitment to make a difference to every family at Giant Steps is exceptional. James is a generous donor and champion of Giant Steps and has sourced many incredible Live, Premium and Silent Auction Prizes. Thank you James, for helping to make tonight unforgettable.

Giant Steps Ball Committee Members
Including the Giant Steps families and the Giant Steps Fundraising Team.

Giant Steps Community

The Giant Steps parent body for obtaining prizes, helping with Ball preparations and for supporting tonight's event. The Giant Steps Board and staff for their ongoing commitment and assistance.

Crafted with Love

Thank you to our Adult Autism Services participants for the handmade gifts - Italian olive oil individually prepared for each guest.

Graphic Design Services

Petra Daley for designing the fantastic invitations, program, auction booklet and all printed and online documents.

Printing Services

Grant Shortland of Vital Paper for supplying all the paper and for organising all the printing to be donated.

MC

Rob Rossano

Auctioneer

Jason Kazanis

Volunteers

All the volunteers tonight as well as those who assisted with set up and in the weeks leading up to the Ball.

Photographers

HomePix Photography

Ting Hing Lee

Décor

Rebecca from Lulu & Lotti Event Styling

Website

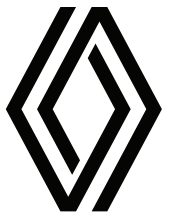
Vicki McGuiness Design



RENAULT KOLEOS



Black Nappa leather upholstery
Electric panoramic sunroof
Electric, heated and ventilated front seats
Driver's seat with memory adjustment
Powered hands-free tailgate
Easy park assist hands-free parking system



Koleos Techno 4x2 model shown

renault.com.au



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